GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:286
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003
OUTSTANDING CENTRAL EXCISE AND CUSTOMS
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a)the outstanding amount of Central Excise and Customs as on date;

(b) whether the Government have ascertained the reasons for this huge outstanding amount;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether nearly 70 percent of court cases are lost due to inept handling of the cases by the lawyers; and

(e) if so, the corrective steps taken/propose to be taken to reduce this outstanding amount?

Answer

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) to (e) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d), AND (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.28 BE ANSWERED ON 8TH AUGUST, 2003

(a) The outstanding dues of Central Excise and Customs as on 30.6.2003 are approximately Rs.11245 Crore and Rs. 2978 Crore respectively.

(b) and (c) The reasons for non-recovery of outstanding dues include stay orders by Courts and other competent authorities; permissible period of three months for filing the appeal not being over; cases pending with the Committee on Disputes in respect of Public Sector Units; sick units registered with BIFR; company under liquidation and assets under the control of official liquidator/court receiver; assets taken over by banks and financial institutions.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Amongst others, steps taken include speedy action for recovery of realisable arrears of duty; monitoring cases before different Courts/Tribunal; moving petitions before Courts and other appellate authorities for early hearing and disposal of pending cases and expediting disposal of cases pending with Commissioners(Appeals)